

Appl. No. 10/560,138

Resp. Dated: April 27, 2010

Reply to Office Action of January 21, 2010

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-captioned patent application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A device for the separation of a component in a liquid sample prior to the detection of an analyte in said liquid sample, said device having a non-porous substrate comprising:
 - a sample receiving zone;
 - a substrate surface;
 - a separator element ~~wherein said separator element consists of~~ having first projections substantially vertical to said substrate surface having a height, diameter, and reciprocal spacing, forming a gradient with regard to the diameter or reciprocal spacing of said first projections such that separation of the component occurs, and wherein said separator element is provided adjacent to or in said receiving zone; and
 - a transport or incubation zone connected to said receiving zone thereby forming a flow path on said non-porous substrate, wherein at least part of said flow path ~~consists of~~ has areas of second projections substantially vertical to said substrate surface, said second projections having a height, a diameter and a reciprocal spacing such that lateral capillary flow of said liquid sample in said transport or incubation zone is achieved, said flow path on said non-porous substrate being defined by an open flow path wherein said lateral capillary flow is capable of being induced solely due to said first and said second projections without requiring additional structure to induce or assist said flow.